| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 01-09-1991 . . . | Rs. 90/T on steel and Rs. 60/T on pig iron. | Increase in outward railway freight. |
| 01-03-1992 . . . | Rs. 263/T on long products, Rs. 100 to 830/T on flat produces and Rs. 130/T on pig iron. | Increase in excise duty. |
| 01-09-1992 . . . | Rs. 121/T on steel and Rs. 85/T on pig iron. | Increase in outward railway freight. |
| 18/19-05-1992 . . . | An average of 15% on steel and 16%; on pig-iron. | General price increase to meet escalations in input costs. |

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Imports of coking coal by the integrated steel plants during 1991-92 was 6.3 million tonnes valued at Rs. 960.5 crores.

**EGEAF Engineering Goods Exports Assistance Fund.

*FEF Freight Equalisation Fund.

**Requirement of Foodgrains in the Country**

*153. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Times of India dated the 20th May, 1992 captioned 'New Agricultural Technology crucial; WB';

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) what will be the requirement of foodgrains in the country by the turn of the century as against the production; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to increase production to meet the shortfal in the foodgrains production; if any?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) and (b) The news item referred to by the Hon'ble Member relates to the World Bank Developmnet Report (WDR-92). The World Bank Report suggests allocation and protection of property rights, farmers' education and strengthening of research and development, etc. for meeting the anticipated doubling of food demand by 2030. Many of the suggestions for increasing food production are already in the knowledge of Government. The ICAR and the State Agricultural Universities continuously strive to greater science-based-specific technologies suited for various cropping patterns in different agro-climatic regions of the country for sustaining high yields.

(c) and (d) The foodgrain requirement for 1997 and 2007 has been estimated at around 208 million tonnes and 276 million tonnes respectively. The required production levels of food-grain by 1997 and 2007 are 210 million tonnes and 282 million tonnes respectively. Important programmes for increasing crop production being implemented include Integrated Production for Rice Development (IPRD). Special Food-

grains Production Programme in Wheat (SFPP-Wheat), Special Foodgrains Production Programme—Maize and Millets, etc.

**Model Rent Control Law**

154. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to enact a Model Rent Control law in order to strike a balance between the interests of tenants and landlords;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments would be advised to implement the Model Rent Control Law; and

(d) what is Government's assessment about the number of dwelling units lying vacant but for the rent control law in Delhi, Bombay and other metropolises?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) to (c) Rent Control is a State subject and as such the State Governments have the exclusive jurisdiction to legislate on this subject. However, with a view to providing uniformity in the rent legislations throughout the country, Government has approved the Model Rent Control Law which has been laid on the Table of the Sabha in this Session. The objective of the Model Law is to balance the interests of landlords and tenants, expand the rental housing stock, permit periodic revision of rent, ensure better maintenance and speed up the adjudication of disputes. The State Governments are being advised to adopt the Model Rent Control Law with such suitable modification to suit the local condition, as may be necessary.

(d) No specific survey has been conducted regarding dwelling units lying vacant on account of the rent control law, in Delhi, Bombay and other metropolises.

**Linking of River Vaigai with River Achankoil, Kerala**

*155. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the basis of a study undertaken by a Central Government team the feasibility of linking of Vaigai, 9 river in Tamil Nadu with Achankoil river in Kerala has been established,

(b) what concrete proposal has been made to make the feasibility a reality;

(c) whether any other study has been made or is in progress to find out the feasibility of linking the West ward flowing Kerala rivers with some other rivers of Tamil Nadu; and

(d) if so, what are the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) The National Water Development Agency has prepared a preliminary report suggesting the feasibility of the Pamba-Achankovil-Vaigai link for transferring about 664 million cubic metres of water.

(b) As a follow up on this report detailed survey and investigations on the ground have been taken up in 1991-92 to prepare a formal detailed project report.

(c) No other proposal is under consideration.

(d) Does not arise.